DIVISION 15. SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Application of Division

35000. The provisions of this division refer exclusively to the size and weight of, and loads upon, vehicles when operated upon the highways.

Snow Removal Devices

35001. The provisions of this division, except those requiring a permit for overweight loads, do not apply to motor trucks equipped with snow removal devices.

Authorized Emergency Vehicles: Exemption

- 35002. (a) (1) This division does not apply to any authorized emergency vehicle owned or operated by a governmental agency while being used in responding to and returning from emergency fire calls, while being moved from place to place in anticipation of emergency fire calls, when used during training in any fire service application or during fire prevention activities, or when vehicles ordinarily used for those purposes are necessarily transported for vehicle maintenance, repair, or service. This subdivision only applies to vehicles purchased prior to January 1, 1994. Vehicles purchased on January 1, 1992, to and including December 31, 1993, shall meet the applicable requirements of Standards 1901 to 1904, inclusive, of the National Fire Protection Association, as those standards were in effect on December 31, 1991
- (2) All vehicles described in paragraph (1) first purchased on or after January 1, 1994, shall comply with the applicable permit requirements adopted by the Department of Transportation.
- (3) For purposes of this section, "purchased" means the date that the operating agency enters into a contract to purchase the vehicle.
- (b) All vehicles described in subdivision (a) purchased on or after January 1, 1994, shall meet the following requirements:
- (1) It shall be the responsibility of the manufacturer to provide a gross axle weight rating (GAWR), gross combined weight rating (GCWR), and gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), adequate to carry a full water tank with the allowance for personnel and miscellaneous equipment, including hose load, shown in the table below:

	Personnel	Misc. Equipment
Pumpers	. 1,200 lbs.	2,000 lbs.
Light attack apparatus	. 600 lbs.	900 lbs.
Water towers	. 1,200 lbs.	1,500 lbs.
Aerial platforms with ground ladders	. 1,200 lbs.	2,500 lbs.
Aerial ladders with ground ladders	. 1,200 lbs.	2,500 lbs.

Fire apparatus shall be weighed and certified by the manufacturer to determine compliance with the table above prior to acceptance by the purchaser. Apparatus and chassis manufacturers shall furnish certification of the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), gross combined weight rating (GCWR), and gross axle weight rating (GAWR) on a nameplate affixed to the apparatus.

(2) Any fire apparatus exceeding 31,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) shall be equipped with a retarder.

- (3) For purposes of this section, a "fire apparatus" is any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, maintained, and used exclusively for the suppression of fires or for fire prevention activities, including the training of firefighters. A tank vehicle owned by a regularly organized fire suppression agency and used to transport water or other fire suppression materials is a fire apparatus. A vehicle or combination of vehicles which is not designed primarily for fire suppression, including, but not limited to, a hazardous materials response vehicle, dedicated rescue vehicle, command post communications vehicle, passenger vehicle, bus, mobile kitchen, mobile sanitation facility, and heavy equipment transport vehicle, are not a fire apparatus for purposes of this section.
- (c) A vehicle owned, operated, or rented by any public agency which is being used in responding to or returning from an emergency, may be operated as required, if a reasonable effort is first made by the agency to obtain verbal permission from an authorized officer or employee of the agency having jurisdiction of the highways used, and, upon termination of the emergency, when the vehicle is returning from the site of the emergency, the public agency either obtains a permit at the location of the emergency or makes a reasonable effort to obtain verbal permission from an authorized officer or employee of the agency having jurisdiction of the highways used, and obtains a written permit for that use pursuant to Section 35780 not later than three days after the date of the emergency. As used in this subdivision, "emergency" means a condition which poses an imminent threat of loss of property or a hazard to life, as determined by the public agency charged with responsibility to respond thereto.
- (d) Any governmental agency operating an authorized emergency vehicle or other vehicle subject to this section is liable to the governmental agency having jurisdiction of any state or county highway for any damage to the highway or any highway structure caused by the operation of the vehicle of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding that specified in this division. The cost of repair of the damage is a proper charge against the support fund of the governmental agency operating the oversize or overweight vehicle.
- (e) Neither the state nor any agency thereof is liable for damage to any highway or highway structure caused by vehicles operated, pursuant to this section, by or on behalf of a local authority or any other local governmental entity.

Amended Ch. 1220, Stats. 1994. Effective September 30, 1994.

Booms, Masts, Machinery, and Other Equipment

35003. For the purpose of this division, booms, masts, machinery or other equipment which is not attendant to the efficient operation of the body of the vehicle but which may be attached to the body or chassis or connected with the driving mechanism, shall be regarded as a load.

Added Ch. 12, Stats. 1968. Effective November 13, 1968.

CHAPTER 2. WIDTH

Total Outside Width

35100. (a) The total outside width of any vehicle or its load shall not exceed 102 inches, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, safety devices which the Secretary of Transportation determines to be necessary for the safe and efficient operation of motor vehicles shall not be included in the calculation of width as specified in subdivision (a).
- (c) Any city or county may, by ordinance, prohibit a combination of vehicles of a total width in excess of 96 inches upon highways under its

jurisdiction. The ordinance shall not be effective until appropriate signs are erected indicating the streets affected.

Amended Ch. 1452, Stats. 1988. Effective September 28, 1988.

Width Measurement

- 35100.1. For purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 35100, the following apply:
- (a) The metric equivalent of 102 inches, 2.6 meters, meets the requirement of Section 35100.
- (b) The width measurement of any vehicle with side walls shall be made from the outside wall of the two opposite sides of the vehicle.

Added Ch. 1452, Stats. 1988. Effective September 28, 1988.

Cotton Module Mover: Width

35100.5. The total outside width of a cotton module mover operated on the highways pursuant to Section 35555 and the load thereon shall not exceed 130 inches in width. However, a county board of supervisors, with respect to any or all county highways within its jurisdiction or any portion thereof, may by resolution prohibit or limit the operation of cotton module movers exceeding the maximum width specified in Section 35100.

Added Ch. 270, Stats. 1984. Effective July 3, 1984.

Pneumatic Tires: Maximum Width: Performance Standards

35101. When any vehicle is equipped with pneumatic tires, the maximum width from the outside of one wheel and tire to the outside of the opposite outer wheel and tire shall not exceed 108 inches, but the outside width of the body of the vehicle or the load thereon shall not exceed 102 inches.

Vehicles manufactured, reconstructed, or modified after the effective date of amendments to this section enacted during the 1983 portion of the 1983-84 Regular Session of the Legislature, to utilize the 102 inch maximum width dimension, shall be equipped with axles, tires, and wheels of sufficient width to adequately and safely stabilize the vehicle. The Department of the California Highway Patrol shall conduct tests relating to the dynamic stability of vehicles utilizing body widths over 96 inches, up to and including 102 inches, to determine the necessity for establishing performance standards under the authority of Section 34500. Such standards if established shall be consistent with width standards established by or under the authority of the United States Department of Transportation.

Amended Ch. 145, Stats. 1983. Effective June 28, 1983.

Loose Loads

35102. When any vehicle carries a load of loosely piled agricultural products such as hay, straw, or leguminous plants in bulk but not crated, baled, boxed, or sacked, such load of loosely piled material and any loading racks retaining the same shall not exceed 120 inches in width.

Vehicles Limited to 120-Inch Width

- 35104. The limitations as to width do not apply to the following vehicles except that these vehicles shall not exceed a width of 120 inches:
 - (a) Special mobile equipment.
 - (b) Special construction or highway maintenance equipment.
- (c) Motor vehicles designed for, and used exclusively to, haul feed for livestock that are exempted from registration by subdivision (c) of Section 36102, except when operated on a highway during darkness.

Amended Ch. 1021, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Chartered Cities

35105. Any city organized under a freeholders' charter may by ordinance permit a total outside width of vehicle and load in excess of the limits set forth in Sections 35100, 35101, 35102, 35104, and 35106 when the vehicle is used exclusively within the boundary limits of the city.

Amended Ch. 145, Stats. 1983. Effective June 28, 1983.

Motor Coaches and Buses

- 35106. (a) Motor coaches or buses may have a maximum width not exceeding 102 inches.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), motor coaches or buses operated under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission in urban or suburban service may have a maximum outside width not exceeding 104 inches, when approved by order of the Public Utilities Commission for use on routes designated by it. Motor coaches or buses operated by common carriers of passengers for hire in urban or suburban service and not under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission may have a maximum outside width not exceeding 104 inches.
 - (c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2002. Added Sec. 50, Ch. 724, Stats. 1999. Effective January 1, 2000. Operative January 1, 2002.

Urban and Suburban Service Defined

- 35107. "Urban and suburban service" means a service performed in urban or suburban areas, or between municipalities in close proximity, except that:
- (a) The one-way route mileage of the service shall not be more than 50 miles.
- (b) Designated motor coach routes over state highways outside limits of incorporated cities where the one-way route mileage is over 25 miles, but does not exceed 50 miles, shall be approved by the Department of Transportation.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Projecting Lights, Mirrors, or Devices

35109. Lights, mirrors, or devices which are required to be mounted upon a vehicle under this code may extend beyond the permissible width of the vehicle to a distance not exceeding 10 inches on each side of the vehicle.

Amended Ch. 145, Stats. 1983. Effective June 28, 1983.

Projecting Equipment

35110. Door handles, hinges, cable cinchers, chain binders, and holders for the display of placards warning of hazardous materials may extend three inches on each side of the vehicle.

Amended Ch. 145, Stats. 1983. Effective June 28, 1983.

Loads on Passenger Vehicles

35111. No passenger vehicle shall be operated on any highway with any load carried thereon extending beyond the line of the fenders on its left side or more than six inches beyond the line of the fenders on its right side.

Amended Ch. 120, Stats. 1961. Effective September 15, 1961.

CHAPTER 3. HEIGHT

Maximum Height: Exceptions

35250. No vehicle or load shall exceed a height of 14 feet measured from the surface upon which the vehicle stands, except that a double-deck bus may not exceed a height of 14 feet, 3 inches. Any vehicle or load which exceeds a height of 13 feet, 6 inches, shall only be operated on those highways where

deemed to be safe by the owner of the vehicle or the entity operating the bus. Amended Ch. 1287, Stats. 1984. Effective September 19, 1984. Supersedes Ch. 849.

Hydraulic Boom or Mast: Restraint

- 35251. (a) A boom or mast which is designed to be raised and lowered by hydraulic mechanisms and which is a constituent part of or an attachment to a vehicle or machine, shall be securely chained or otherwise restrained to ensure compliance with Section 35250 while the vehicle or machine is being transported as a load or driven upon any highway.
- (b) Subdivision (a) does not apply when the configuration and design of the hydraulic boom effectively restrain the movement of the boom during transit.

Amended Ch. 704, Stats. 1994. Effective January 1, 1995.

Vertical Clearance Measuring Device

- 35252. (a) A pilot car may operate a vertical clearance measuring device with a height in excess of 14 feet when escorting a permitted overheight load. The pilot car may also operate the vertical clearance measuring device when surveying a route for a permitted overheight load.
- (b) Any vertical measuring device used by a pilot car shall be designed and operated so as to avoid any damages to overhead structures. The measuring device shall be securely affixed to the pilot car, and shall be operated in a manner that does not create a hazard to surrounding traffic.
- (c) The operator of the pilot car shall not reduce the vehicle's speed more than 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit on the roadway to measure overhead clearance, nor exit the vehicle to measure the clearance of overhead structures from a vantage point on or above the roadway.

Added Ch. 460, Stats. 1988. Effective January 1, 1989.

CHAPTER 4. LENGTH

Maximum Vehicle Length: General Limitation

- 35400. (a) No vehicle shall exceed a length of 40 feet.
- (b) This section does not apply to any of the following:
- (1) A vehicle used in a combination of vehicles when the excess length is caused by auxiliary parts, equipment, or machinery not used as space to carry any part of the load, except that the combination of vehicles shall not exceed the length provided for combination vehicles.
- (2) A vehicle, when the excess length is caused by any parts necessary to comply with the fender and mudguard regulations of this code.
- (3) (A) An articulated bus or articulated trolley coach that does not exceed a length of 60 feet.
- (B) An articulated bus or articulated trolley coach described in subparagraph (A) may be equipped with a folding device attached to the front of the bus or trolley if the device is designed and used exclusively for transporting bicycles. The device, including any bicycles transported thereon, shall be mounted in a manner that does not materially affect efficiency or visibility of vehicle safety equipment, and shall not extend more than 36 inches from the front body of the bus or trolley coach when fully deployed. The handlebars of a bicycle that is transported on a device described in this subparagraph shall not extend more than 42 inches from the front of the bus.
- (4) A semitrailer while being towed by a motortruck or truck tractor, if the distance from the kingpin to the rearmost axle of the semitrailer does not exceed 40 feet for semitrailers having two or more axles, or 38 feet for semitrailers having one axle if the semitrailer does not, exclusive of

attachments, extend forward of the rear of the cab of the motortruck or truck tractor.

- (5) A bus or house car when the excess length is caused by the projection of a front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper, or both. The safety bumper shall not cause the length of the vehicle to exceed the maximum legal limit by more than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. For the purposes of this chapter, "safety bumper" means any device that is fitted on an existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is constructed, treated, or manufactured to absorb energy upon impact.
- (6) A schoolbus, when the excess length is caused by the projection of a crossing control arm. For the purposes of this chapter, "crossing control arm" means an extendable and retractable device fitted to the front of a schoolbus that is designed to impede movement of pupils exiting the schoolbus directly in front of the schoolbus so that pupils are visible to the driver while they are moving in front of the schoolbus. An operator of a schoolbus shall not extend a crossing control arm while the schoolbus is in motion. Except when activated, a crossing control arm shall not cause the maximum length of the schoolbus to be extended by more than 10 inches, inclusive of any front safety bumper. Use of a crossing control arm by the operator of a schoolbus does not, in and of itself, fulfill his or her responsibility to ensure the safety of students crossing a highway or private road pursuant to Section 22112.
- (7) A bus, when the excess length is caused by a device, located in front of the front axle, for lifting wheelchairs into the bus. That device shall not cause the length of the bus to be extended by more than 18 inches, inclusive of any front safety bumper. () $^{\rm 1}$
- (8) A bus, when the excess length is caused by a device attached to the rear of the bus designed and used exclusively for the transporting of bicycles. This device may be up to 10 feet in length, if the device, along with any other device permitted pursuant to this section, does not cause the total length of the bus, including any device or load, to exceed 50 feet. () 2
- (9) A bus operated by a public agency or a passenger stage corporation, as defined in Section 226 of the Public Utilities Code, used in transit system service, other than a schoolbus, when the excess length is caused by a folding device attached to the front of the bus which is designed and used exclusively for transporting bicycles. The device, including any bicycles transported thereon, shall be mounted in a manner that does not materially affect efficiency or visibility of vehicle safety equipment, and shall not extend more than 36 inches from the front body of the bus when fully deployed. The handlebars of a bicycle that is transported on a device described in this paragraph shall not extend more than 42 inches from the front of the bus. A device described in this paragraph may not be used on any bus which, exclusive of the device, exceeds 40 feet in length or on any bus having a device attached to the rear of the bus pursuant to paragraph (7). () ³
- (10) A bus of a length of up to 45 feet when operating on those highways specified in subdivision (a) of Section 35401.5. The Department of Transportation or local authorities, with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions, shall not deny reasonable access to a bus of a length of up to 45 feet between the highways specified in subdivision (a) of Section 35401.5 and points of loading and unloading for motor carriers of passengers as required by the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (P.L. 102-240). () 4
 - (11) (A) A house car of a length of up to 45 feet when operating on the

National System of Interstate and Defense Highways or when using those portions of federal aid primary system highways that have been qualified by the United States Secretary of Transportation for that use, or when using routes appropriately identified by the Department of Transportation or local authorities, with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions.

- (B) A house car described in subparagraph (A) may be operated on a highway that provides reasonable access to facilities for purposes limited to fuel, food, and lodging when that access is consistent with the safe operation of the vehicle and when the facility is within one road mile of identified points of ingress and egress to or from highways specified in subparagraph (A) for use by that vehicle.
- (C) As used in this paragraph and paragraph () 3 (10), "reasonable access" means access substantially similar to that authorized combinations of vehicles pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 35401.5.
- (D) Any access route established by a local authority pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 35401.5 is open for access by a house car of a length of up to 45 feet. In addition, local authorities may establish a process whereby access to services by house cars of a length of up to 45 feet may be applied for upon a route not previously established as an access route. The denial of a request for access to services shall be only on the basis of safety and an engineering analysis of the proposed access route. In lieu of processing an access application, local authorities, with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, may provide signing, mapping, or a listing of highways, as necessary, to indicate the use of these specific routes by a house car of a length of up to 45 feet.
- (c) The Legislature, by increasing the maximum permissible kingpin to rearmost axle distance to 40 feet effective January 1, 1987, as provided in paragraph (4) of subdivision (b), does not intend this action to be considered a precedent for any future increases in truck size and length limitations.
- (d) Any transit bus equipped with a folding device installed on or after January 1, 1999, that is permitted under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) or under paragraph () 2 (9) of subdivision (b) shall be additionally equipped with any of the following:
- (1) An indicator light that is visible to the driver and is activated whenever the folding device is in an extended position.
- (2) Any other device or mechanism that provides notice to the driver that the folding device is in an extended position.
- (3) A mechanism that causes the folding device to retract automatically from an extended position.
- (e) (1) No person shall improperly or unsafely mount a bicycle on a device described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), or in paragraph () ² (9) of subdivision (b).
- (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 23114 or subdivision (a) of Section 24002 or any other provision of law, when a bicycle is improperly or unsafely loaded by a passenger onto a transit bus, the passenger, and not the driver, is liable for any violation of this code that is attributable to the improper or unlawful loading of the bicycle.

Amended Sec. 40, Ch. 766, Stats. 1995. Effective January 1, 1996. Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 560, Stats. 1998. Effective January 1, 1999. Amended Sec. 10, Ch. 860, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001. Amended Sec. 6, Ch. 658, Stats. 2001. Effective October 9, 2001. Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 78, Stats. 2002. Effective January 1, 2003.

The 2002 amendment added the italicized material, and at the point(s) indicated, deleted the following:
1. "(7)"
2. "(8)"
3. "(9)"

4. "(10)"

Exception: Cotton Module Mover

35400.5. Subdivision (a) of Section 35400 does not apply to a motortruck used solely as a cotton module mover and which does not exceed 48 feet in length.

Amended Ch. 270, Stats. 1984. Effective July 3, 1984.

Combinations of Vehicles

- 35401. (a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b), (c), and (d), no combination of vehicles coupled together, including any attachments, () 1 *may* exceed a total length of 65 feet.
- (b) (1) A combination of vehicles coupled together, including any attachments, which consists of a truck tractor, a semitrailer, and a semitrailer or trailer, () ¹ *may* not exceed a total length of 75 feet, if the length of neither the semitrailers nor the trailer in the combination of vehicles exceeds 28 feet 6 inches.
- (2) A B-train assembly is excluded from the measurement of semitrailer length when used between the first and second semitrailers of a truck tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination of vehicles. However, if there is no second semitrailer mounted to the B-train assembly, it shall be included in the length measurement of the semitrailer to which it is attached.
- (3) A combination of vehicles coupled together, including any attachments, may have a total length of not more than 75 feet, if all of the following apply:
- (A) The combination of vehicles consists of a motortruck and two trailers.
- (B) No trailer in the combination exceeds 28 feet 6 inches in length.
- (C) The combination is used exclusively to transport agricultural products from the field to the first point of handling and return, and each direction of transport does not exceed 80 miles.
- (D) The combination is not operated on a highway designated by the United States Department of Transportation as a national network route.
- (E) The Department of the California Highway Patrol, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall conduct a study of the effect that the exemption provided in paragraph (3) has on public safety. The Department of the California Highway Patrol shall report the results of the study to the Legislature and the Governor on or before April 1, 2005.
- (F) This paragraph shall become inoperative on January 1, 2006, unless a later enacted statute deletes or extends that date.
- (c) A tow truck in combination with any of the following vehicles authorized to travel on the highway by this chapter is exempt from subdivision (a) when operating under a valid annual transportation permit and within a () ² 100-mile radius of the location specified in the permit:
 - (1) A disabled vehicle.
 - (2) An abandoned vehicle.
 - (3) A disabled or abandoned combination of vehicles.

A tow truck in combination with the above vehicles may exceed the 100-mile radius restriction if a single trip permit is obtained from the Department of Transportation.

(d) Any city or county may, by ordinance, prohibit a combination of vehicles of a total length in excess of 60 feet upon highways under its respective jurisdiction. The ordinance () 1 *may* not be effective until

appropriate signs are erected indicating either the streets affected by the ordinance or the streets not affected, as the local authority determines will best serve to give notice of the ordinance.

- (e) Any city or county, upon a determination that a highway or portion of highway under its jurisdiction cannot, in consideration of public safety, sustain the operation of trailers or semitrailers of the maximum kingpin to rearmost axle distances permitted under Section 35400, may, by ordinance, establish lesser distances consistent with the maximum distances that the highway or highway portion can sustain, except that a city or county () 1 $\it may$ not restrict the kingpin to rearmost axle measurement to less than 38 feet on those highways or highway portions. Any city or county considering the adoption of an ordinance shall consider, but not be limited to, consideration of, all of the following:
- (1) A comparison of the operating characteristics of the vehicles to be limited as compared to operating characteristics of other vehicles regulated by this code.
 - (2) Actual traffic volume.
 - (3) Frequency of accidents.
 - (4) Any other relevant data.

In addition, the city or county may appoint an advisory committee consisting of local representatives of those interests which are likely to be affected and shall consider the recommendations of the advisory committee in adopting the ordinance. The ordinance () 1 may not be effective until appropriate signs are erected indicating the highways or highway portions affected by the ordinance.

This subdivision shall only become operative upon the adoption of an enabling ordinance by a city or county.

(f) Whenever, in the judgment of the Department of Transportation, any state highway cannot, in consideration of public safety, sustain the operation of trailers or semitrailers of the maximum kingpin to rearmost axle distances permitted under Section 35400, the director, in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, shall compile data on total traffic volume, frequency of use by vehicles covered by this subdivision, accidents involving these vehicles, and other relevant data to assess whether these vehicles are a threat to public safety and should be excluded from the highway or highway segment. The study, containing the conclusions and recommendations of the director, shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. Unless otherwise notified by the secretary, the director shall hold public hearings in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article3 (commencing with Section 35650) of Chapter 5 for the purpose of determining the maximum kingpin to rear axle length, which shall be not less than 38 feet, that the highway or highway segment can sustain without unreasonable threat to the safety of the public. Upon the basis of the findings, the Director of Transportation shall declare in writing the maximum kingpin to rear axle lengths which can be maintained with safety upon the highway. Following the declaration of maximum lengths as provided by this subdivision, the Department of Transportation shall erect suitable signs at each end of the affected portion of the highway and at any other points that the Department of Transportation determines to be necessary to give adequate notice of the length limits.

The Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, shall compile traffic volume, geometric, and other relevant data, to assess the maximum kingpin to rearmost axle distance of vehicle combinations appropriate for those state highways or

portion of highways, affected by this section, that cannot safely accommodate trailers or semitrailers of the maximum kingpin to rearmost axle distances permitted under Section 35400. On or before January 1, 1989, the department shall erect suitable signs appropriately restricting truck travel on those highways, or portions of highways, and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature.

Amended Ch. 13, Stats. 1991. Effective February 13, 1991.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 560, Stats. 2002. Effective January 1, 2003.

The 2002 amendment added the italicized material, and at the point(s) indicated, deleted the following:

- 1. "shall" 2. "100 mile"

Combination of Vehicles: Exceptions

A combination of vehicles operated pursuant to Section 35400 or 35401 with a kingpin to rearmost axle measurement of greater than 38 feet but not more than 40 feet may be operated on those highways under the jurisdiction of local authorities only where it is deemed to be safe by the owner of the vehicle or the person operating the vehicle and where its operation is not specifically prohibited by local ordinance pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 35401.

Added Ch. 1378, Stats. 1986. Effective January 1, 1987.

Combination of Vehicles: Additional Exceptions

- (a) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 35401, a combination of vehicles designed and used to transport motor vehicles, camper units, or boats, which consists of a motortruck and stinger-steered semitrailer, shall be allowed a length of up to 70 feet if the kingpin is at least 3 feet behind the rear drive axle of the motortruck. This combination shall not be subject to subdivision (a) of Section 35411, but the load upon the rear vehicle of the combination shall not extend more than 6 feet 6 inches beyond the allowable length of the vehicle.
- (b) A combination of vehicles designed and used to transport motor vehicles, camper units, or boats, which consists of a motortruck and stingersteered semitrailer, shall be allowed a length of up to 75 feet if all of the following conditions are maintained:
- (1) The distance from the steering axle to the rear drive axle of the motortruck does not exceed 24 feet.
- (2) The kingpin is at least 5 feet behind the rear drive axle of the motortruck.
- (3) The distance from the kingpin to the rear axle of the semitrailer does not exceed 34 feet except that the distance from the kingpin to the rear axle of a triple axle semitrailer does not exceed 36 feet.

This combination shall not be subject to subdivision (a) of Section 35411, but the load upon the rear vehicle of the combination shall not extend more than 6 feet 6 inches beyond the allowable length of the vehicle.

Amended Sec. 2, Ch. 340, Stats. 1998. Effective August 24, 1998. Amended Sec. 11, Ch. 860, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Combination of Vehicles: Additional Exceptions

(a) A combination of vehicles consisting of a truck tractor and semitrailer, or of a truck tractor, semitrailer, and trailer, is not subject to the limitations of Sections 35400 and 35401, when operating on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways or when using those portions of federal-aid primary system highways that have been qualified by the United States Secretary of Transportation for that use, or when using routes appropriately identified by the Department of Transportation or local authorities as provided in subdivision (c) or (d), if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The length of the semitrailer in exclusive combination with a truck tractor does not exceed 48 feet. A semitrailer not more than 53 feet in length shall satisfy this requirement when configured with two or more rear axles, the rearmost of which is located 40 feet or less from the kingpin or when configured with a single axle which is located 38 feet or less from the kingpin. For purposes of this paragraph, a motortruck used in combination with a semitrailer, when that combination of vehicles is engaged solely in the transportation of motor vehicles, camper units, or boats, is considered to be a truck tractor.
- (2) Neither the length of the semitrailer nor the length of the trailer when simultaneously in combination with a truck tractor exceeds 28 feet 6 inches.
- (b) Subdivisions (b), (d), and (e) of Section 35402 do not apply to combinations of vehicles operated subject to the exemptions provided by this section.
- (c) Combinations of vehicles operated pursuant to subdivision (a) may also use highways not specified in subdivision (a) which provide reasonable access to terminals and facilities for purposes limited to fuel, food, lodging, and repair when that access is consistent with the safe operation of the combinations of vehicles and when the facility is within one road mile of identified points of ingress and egress to or from highways specified in subdivision (a) for use by those combinations of vehicles.
- (d) The Department of Transportation or local authorities may establish a process whereby access to terminals or services may be applied for upon a route not previously established as an access route. The denial of a request for access to terminals and services shall be only on the basis of safety and an engineering analysis of the proposed access route. If a written request for access has been properly submitted and has not been acted upon within 90 days of receipt by the department or the appropriate local agency, the access shall be deemed automatically approved. Thereafter, the route shall be deemed open for access by all other vehicles of the same type regardless of ownership. In lieu of processing an access application, the Department of Transportation or local authorities with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions may provide signing, mapping, or a listing of highways as necessary to indicate the use of specific routes as terminal access routes. For purposes of this subdivision, "terminal" means either of the following:
- (1) A facility where freight originates, terminates, or is handled in the transportation process.
 - (2) A facility where a motor carrier maintains operating facilities.
- (e) Nothing in subdivision (c) or (d) authorizes state or local agencies to require permits of terminal operators or to charge terminal operators fees for the purpose of attaining access for vehicles described in this section.
- (f) Notwithstanding subdivision (d), the limitations of access specified in that subdivision do not apply to licensed carriers of household goods when directly enroute to or from a point of loading or unloading of household goods, if travel on highways other than those specified in subdivision (a) is necessary and incidental to the shipment of the household goods.
- (g) (1) Notwithstanding Sections 35400 and 35401, the Department of Transportation or local authorities, with regard to highways under their respective jurisdictions, may, upon application, issue a special permit authorizing the applicant to operate a combination of vehicles consisting of a truck tractor semitrailer combination operated pursuant to subdivision (a) with a kingpin to rearmost axle measurement limit of not more than 46 feet on trailers used exclusively or primarily in connection with motorsports. As

used in this paragraph, "motorsports" means any event, and all activities leading up to that event, including, but not limited to, administration, testing, practice, promotion, and merchandising, that is sanctioned under the auspices of the member organizations of the Automobile Competition Committee for the United States.

- (2) A local authority, as a condition of issuing a special permit under this subdivision, may establish reasonable controls on the allowable hours of operation of those semitrailers that are authorized to operate under this subdivision.
 - (h) The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:
- (1) In authorizing the use of 53-foot semitrailers, it is the intent of the Legislature to conform with Section 2311(b) of Title 49 of the United States Code by permitting the continued use of semitrailers of the dimensions as those that were in actual and legal use on December 1, 1982, and does not intend this action to be a precedent for future increases in the parameters of any of those vehicles that would adversely affect the turning maneuverability of vehicle combinations.
- (2) In authorizing the department to issue special transportation permits for motorsports, it is the intent of the Legislature to conform with Section 31111(b)(1)(E) of Title 49 of the United States Code. It is also the intent of the Legislature that this action not be a precedent for future increases in the distance from the kingpin to the rearmost axle of semitrailers that would adversely affect the turning maneuverability of vehicle combinations.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 353, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997. Amended Sec. 3, Ch. 340, Stats. 1998. Effective August 24, 1998. Amended Sec. 12, Ch. 860, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Combination Vehicles: Access Limits: Exception

- 35401.7. (a) The limitations of access specified in subdivision (d) of Section 35401.5 do not apply to licensed carriers of livestock when those carriers are directly enroute to or from a point of loading or unloading of livestock on those portions of State Highway Route 101 located in the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino from its junction with State Highway Route 1 near Leggett north to the Oregon border, if the travel is necessary and incidental to the shipment of the livestock.
- (b) The exemption allowed under this section does not apply unless all of the following conditions are met:
- (1) The length of the truck tractor, in combination with the semitrailer used to transport the livestock, does not exceed a total of 70 feet.
- (2) The distance from the kingpin to the rearmost axle of the semitrailer does not exceed 40 feet.
- (c) The exemption allowed under this section does not apply to travel conducted on the day prior to, or on the day of, any federally recognized holiday.
- (d) (1) The Department of the California Highway Patrol, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall conduct an initial study of the effect that the exemption provided under this section has on public safety. The findings of that study shall be reported to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2001.
- (2) The Department of the California Highway Patrol, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall conduct a comprehensive study of the effect that the exemption provided under this section has on public safety during the entire effective period of the exemption, commencing on January 1, 1999. The findings of the study required under this paragraph shall be reported to the Legislature on or before May 1, 2003.
 - (e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2004, and as

of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2004, deletes or extends that date.

Added Sec. 3, Ch. 911, Stats. 1999. Effective January 1, 2000.
Amended and repealed Sec. 1, Ch. 413, Stats. 2001. Effective January 1, 2002. Repeal operative January 1, 2004.

NOTE: The preceding section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2004, and as of that date is repealed.

Vehicle Length: Transportation of Agricultural Biomass

- 35401.8. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 35401 and 35402, a combination of vehicles designed and used to transport agricultural biomass, and that may consist of a truck tractor, a semitrailer, and a semitrailer or trailer, may extend to a total combined length of 75 feet, if the length of the front trailer does not exceed 32 feet, and the length of the rear trailer does not exceed 28 feet 6 inches. The distance between the axles of the front trailer shall be the same as that of a trailer that is 28.5 feet in length. No extension shall be allowed for the front trailer. The rear trailer may have one-third of a bale that extends off of the back of the trailer, the rear trailer may also have an extension not to exceed 18 inches, or the rear trailer may have both the extension and the one-third bale extending off the back of the trailer.
- (b) This section shall only apply to those combinations of vehicles operating within the Counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Placer, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba.
- (c) This section does not apply to those highways designated by the United States Department of Transportation as national network
- (d) The Department of the California Highway Patrol, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall conduct a study on the effect of this statute on public safety, and report their findings to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2005.
- (e) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2006, and shall be repealed as of January 1, 2007, unless a later enacted statute which is enacted before January 1, 2007, deletes or extends that date.

Added and repealed Sec. 1, Ch. 442, Stats. 2002. Effective January 1, 2003. Repeal operative January 1, 2007.

NOTE: The preceding section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2007, and as of that date is repealed.

Extension Devices

- 35402. (a) Any extension or device, including any adjustable axle added to the front or rear of a vehicle, used to increase the carrying capacity of a vehicle shall be included in measuring the length of a vehicle, except that a drawbar shall not be included in measuring the length of a vehicle but shall be included in measuring the overall length of a combination of vehicles.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), extensions of not more than 18 inches in length on each end of a vehicle or combination of vehicles used exclusively to transport vehicles shall not be included in measuring the length of a vehicle or combination of vehicles when the vehicles are loaded.
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an extension of not more than 18 inches in length on the last trailer in a combination of vehicles transporting loads shall not be included in measuring the length of a vehicle or combination of vehicles when the vehicles are loaded. Additionally, an extension of not more than 18 inches in length on the front of the first trailer in a combination of vehicles transporting loads shall not be included in

measuring the length of a vehicle or combination of vehicles when the vehicles are loaded and on highways, other than those highways designated by the United States Department of Transportation as national network routes.

- (d) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), any extension or device which is not used to carry any load and which does not exceed three feet in length, added to the rear of a vehicle, and is used exclusively for pushing the vehicle or a combination of vehicles, which vehicle or combination of vehicles is designed and used exclusively to transport earth, sand, gravel, and similar materials, shall be included in measuring the length of the vehicle but shall not be included in measuring the overall length of the combination of vehicles.
- (e) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a truck semitrailer combination, but not a truck tractor and semitrailer combination, may use a sliding fifth wheel, or a truck tractor, semitrailer, trailer, and a truck-trailer combination may use a sliding drawbar, to extend the length of the combination by not more than 2 feet 6 inches while traveling 35 miles per hour or less on any highway, except a freeway. These provisions shall apply, however, to freeway onramps and offramps and freeway connectors. The sliding fifth wheel or drawbar when extended shall not be included in measuring the overall length of the combination of vehicles if the pivot point of the semitrailer connection is more than two feet to the rear of the center of the rearmost axle of the motortruck or if the distance from the pivot point to the center of the rearmost axle of the semitrailer does not exceed 34 feet.

Combinations of vehicles permitted by this subdivision shall be in compliance with the weight limits provided in Article1 (commencing with Section 35550) of Chapter 5 whenever any drawbar or sliding fifth wheel is extended, contracted, or in any intermediate position as provided for by this subdivision.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 181, Stats. 1999. Effective January 1, 2000. Amended Sec. 13, Ch. 860, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Safety Devices

35403. Safety devices which are required to be mounted upon a vehicle pursuant to provisions of this code, may extend beyond the permissible length of a vehicle, or a combination of vehicles, to a distance not exceeding 10 inches.

Added Ch. 1117, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Prohibiting Highway Use; Vehicle Size

35404. Any county having a population in excess of 4,000,000 and having within its limits a natural island with an area in excess of 20,000 acres may, by ordinance, prohibit the use of any highway or lane, hereafter established in unincorporated area thereon, (1) by any vehicle exceeding an overall length of 170 inches and an overall width of 65 inches, or (2) by any such vehicle and all vehicles driven by internal combustion engines. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 906 of the Streets and Highways Code, no such ordinance shall be enacted unless the board of supervisors shall have theretofore adopted, by a four-fifths vote, a resolution determining that the public convenience and necessity require that such highway or lane have a width of 35 feet or less and a roadway width of 22 feet or less.

Any ordinance enacted pursuant to this section shall be subject to Sections 35718 to 35720, inclusive, of this code and shall not apply to authorized emergency vehicles.

Added Ch. 723. Stats. 1969. Effective November 10, 1969.

Loads

35406. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the load upon any

vehicle operated alone, or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more than three feet beyond the foremost part of the front tires of the vehicle or the front bumper of the vehicle, if it is equipped with a front bumper.

(b) When the load is composed solely of vehicles, the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles shall not extend more than four feet beyond the foremost part of the front tires of the vehicle or the front bumper of the vehicle, if it is equipped with a front bumper.

Amended Ch. 434, Stats. 1972. Effective March 7, 1973.

Booms and Masts

- 35407. Section 35406 does not apply to the booms or masts of shovels, cranes or water well drilling and servicing equipment carried upon a motor vehicle if the following conditions are met:
- (a) The booms or masts shall not extend more than two-thirds of the wheelbase beyond the front tires of such vehicle.
- (b) The projecting structure or attachments thereto shall be securely held in place to prevent dropping or swaying.
- (c) No part of the structure which extends beyond the front tires shall be less than seven feet from the roadway.
- (d) The driver's vision shall not be impaired by the projecting or supporting structure.

Amended Ch. 816, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Heel-Boom Log Loader

- 35407.5. Section 35406 and subdivisions (a) and (d) of Section 35407 do not apply to the booms or masts of a self-propelled heel-boom log loader first sold in this state prior to January 1, 1988, if all of the following conditions are met:
- (a) A system of mirrors or other view enhancements permits the driver to see in any area blocked from view.
- (b) The log loader is operated together with a four wheeled lead vehicle which remains a reasonable distance ahead to guide the movement of the log loader
- (c) Two-way radio communication equipment is maintained in good working condition on the log loader and the pilot car, and is used between those vehicles during movement upon any highway.

Added Ch. 550, Stats. 1988. Effective January 1, 1989.

Front Bumper

35408. In no event shall a front bumper on a motor vehicle be constructed or installed so as to project more than two feet forward of the foremost part of either the fenders or cab structure or radiator, whichever extends farthest toward the front of such vehicle.

Front Mounted Platform

- 35409. (a) Any motor vehicle used for the purpose of taking photographs, motion pictures, or television pictures or for teaching safe driving may be equipped with a dismountable platform or other device extending forward of either the fenders or cab structure or radiator, whichever extends farthest toward the front of such vehicle, for a distance not exceeding five feet while such vehicle is in use for such purpose.
- (b) Any device used for the sole purpose of teaching safe driving, as provided in subdivision (a), shall be of a type authorized by the Department of the California Highway Patrol and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Amended Ch. 723, Stats. 1979. Effective January 1, 1980.

Projections to the Rear

35410. The load upon any motor vehicle alone or an independent load only upon a trailer or semitrailer shall not extend to the rear beyond the last point of support for a greater distance than that equal to two-thirds of the length of the wheelbase of the vehicle carrying such load, except that the wheelbase of a semitrailer shall be considered as the distance between the rearmost axle of the towing vehicle and the rearmost axle of the semitrailer.

Combination of Vehicles: Loads

- 35411. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the load upon any combination of vehicles shall not exceed 75 feet measured from the front extremity of the front vehicle or load to the rear extremity of the last vehicle or load.
- (b) The load upon any combination of vehicles operating pursuant to Section 35401 or 35401.5, when the overall length of the combination of vehicles exceeds 75 feet, shall be confined within the exterior dimensions of the vehicles.

Amended Ch. 145, Stats. 1983. Effective June 28, 1983.

Load Exemptions

- 35414. (a) Except where a load can be transported consistent with the limitations on vehicle and load length specified in other sections of this chapter, the limitations of this chapter as to length of vehicles do not apply when only poles, timbers, pipes, integral structural materials, or single unit component parts, including, but not limited to, missile components, aircraft assemblies, drilling equipment, and tanks not exceeding 80 feet in length are being transported upon any of the following:
- (1) Upon a pole or pipe dolly or otherwise lawful trailer used as a pole or pipe dolly in connection with a motor vehicle.
- (2) Upon a semitrailer, except for the limitations provided in Section 35410.
- (3) Upon a semitrailer and a pole or pipe dolly used in connection with a truck tractor to haul flexible integral structural material.
- (b) Poles and the tools and materials incidental to the work to be performed may be transported on a pole or pipe dolly or otherwise lawful semitrailer used as a pole or pipe dolly, transporting not more than three poles not exceeding 80 feet in length and when used by public utility companies or local public agencies engaged in the business of supplying electricity or telephone service, by the Department of Transportation, or by a licensed contractor in the performance of work for a utility, the department, or a local public agency, when such transportation is between a storage yard and job location where such tools and materials are to be used, in which event the limitations of this chapter as to length of vehicles and loads shall not apply.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 135, Stats. 1998. Effective July 13, 1998.

CHAPTER 5. WEIGHT

Article 1. Axle Limits

Maximum Weight on Single Axle or Wheels

- 35550. (a) The gross weight imposed upon the highway by the wheels on any one axle of a vehicle shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the gross weight upon any one wheel, or wheels, supporting one end of an axle, and resting upon the roadway, shall not exceed 10,500 pounds.
 - (b) The gross weight limit provided for weight bearing upon any one

wheel, or wheels, supporting one end of an axle shall not apply to vehicles the loads of which consist of livestock.

- (c) The maximum wheel load is the lesser of the following:
- (1) The load limit established by the tire manufacturer, as molded on at least one sidewall of the tire.
- (2) A load of 620 pounds per lateral inch of tire width, as determined by the manufacturer's rated tire width as molded on at least one sidewall of the tire for all axles except the steering axle, in which case paragraph (1) applies. Amended Sec. 82, Ch. 1154, Stats. 1996. Effective September 30, 1996.

Computation of Allowable Gross Weight

35551. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section or Section 35551.5, the total gross weight in pounds imposed on the highway by any group of two or more consecutive axles shall not exceed that given for the respective distance in the following table:

Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of 2 or more

group of 2 or more consecutive axles	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
4	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
5	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
6	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
7	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
8	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
9	39,000	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500
10	40,000	43,500	43,500	43,500	43,500
11	40,000	44,000	44,000	44,000	44,000
12	40,000	45,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
13	40,000	45,500	50,500	50,500	50,500
14	40,000	46,500	51,500	51,500	51,500
15	40,000	47,000	52,000	52,000	52,000
16	40,000	48,000	52,500	52,500	52,500
17	40,000	48,500	53,500	53,500	53,500
18	40,000	49,500	54,000	54,000	54,000
19	40,000	50,000	54,500	54,500	54,500
20	40,000	51,000	55,500	55,500	55,500
21	40,000	51,500	56,000	56,000	56,000
22	40,000	52,500	56,500	56,500	56,500
23	40,000	53,000	57,500	57,500	57,500
24	40,000	54,000	58,000	58,000	58,000
25	40,000	54,500	58,500	58,500	58,500

Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of 2 or more					
consecutive axles	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
26	40,000	55,500	59,500	59,500	59,500
27	40,000	56,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
28	40,000	57,000	60,500	60,500	60,500
29	40,000	57,500	61,500	61,500	61,500
30	40,000	58,500	62,000	62,000	62,000
31	40,000	59,000	62,500	62,500	62,500
32	40,000	60,000	63,500	63,500	63,500
33	40,000	60,000	64,000	64,000	64,000
34	40,000	60,000	64,500	64,500	64,500
35	40,000	60,000	65,500	65,500	65,500
36	40,000	60,000	66,000	66,000	66,000
37	40,000	60,000	66,500	66,500	66,500
38	40,000	60,000	67,500	67,500	67,500
39	40,000	60,000	68,000	68,000	68,000
40	40,000	60,000	68,500	70,000	70,000
41	40,000	60,000	69,500	72,000	72,000
42	40,000	60,000	70,000	73,280	73,280
43	40,000	60,000	70,500	73,280	73,280
44	40,000	60,000	71,500	73,280	73,280
45	40,000	60,000	72,000	76,000	80,000
46	40,000	60,000	72,500	76,500	80,000
47	40,000	60,000	73,500	77,500	80,000
48	40,000	60,000	74,000	78,000	80,000
49	40,000	60,000	74,500	78,500	80,000
50	40,000	60,000	75,500	79,000	80,000
51	40,000	60,000	76,000	80,000	80,000
52	40,000	60,000	76,500	80,000	80,000
53	40,000	60,000	77,500	80,000	80,000
54	40,000	60,000	78,000	80,000	80,000
55	40,000	60,000	78,500	80,000	80,000
56	40,000	60,000	79,500	80,000	80,000
57	40,000	60,000	80,000	80,000	80,000

Distance in feet
between the
extremes of any
group of 2 or more

group of 2 or more					
consecutive axles	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
58	40,000	60,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
59	40,000	60,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
60	40,000	60,000	80,000	80,000	80,000

- (b) In addition to the weights specified in subdivision (a), two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more. The gross weight of each set of tandem axles shall not exceed 34,000 pounds and the gross weight of the two consecutive sets of tandem axles shall not exceed 68,000 pounds.
- (c) The distance between axles shall be measured to the nearest whole foot. When a fraction is exactly six inches, the next larger whole foot shall be used
- (d) Nothing contained in this section shall affect the right to prohibit the use of any highway or any bridge or other structure thereon in the manner and to the extent specified in Article4 (commencing with Section 35700) and Article 5 (commencing with Section 35750) of this chapter.
- (e) The gross weight limits expressed by this section and Section 35550 shall include all enforcement tolerances.

Amended Ch. 827, Stats. 1982. Effective January 1, 1983.

Alternate Method of Computation of Allowable Gross Weight

- 35551.5. (a) The provisions of this section shall apply only to combinations of vehicles which contain a trailer or semitrailer. Each vehicle in such combination of vehicles, and every such combination of vehicles, shall comply with either Section 35551 or with subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of this section.
- (b) The gross weight imposed upon the highway by the wheels on any one axle of a vehicle shall not exceed 18,000 pounds and the gross weight upon any one wheel, or wheels, supporting one end of an axle and resting upon the roadway, shall not exceed 9,500 pounds, except that the gross weight imposed upon the highway by the wheels on any front steering axle of a motor vehicle shall not exceed 12,500 pounds. The gross weight limit provided for weight bearing upon any one wheel, or wheels, supporting one end of an axle shall not apply to vehicles the loads of which consist of livestock. The following vehicles are exempt from the front axle weight limits specified in this subdivision:
 - (1) Trucks transporting vehicles.
 - (2) Trucks transporting livestock.
 - (3) Dump trucks.
 - (4) Cranes.
 - (5) Buses.
- (6) Transit mix concrete or cement trucks, and trucks that mix concrete or cement at, or adjacent to, a jobsite.
 - (7) Motor vehicles that are not commercial vehicles.
- (8) Vehicle operated by any public utility furnishing electricity, gas, water, or telephone service.
 - (9) Trucks or truck tractors with a front axle at least four feet to the rear

of the foremost part of the truck or truck tractor, not including the front

(10) Trucks transporting garbage, rubbish, or refuse.

- (11) Trucks equipped with a fifth wheel when towing a semitrailer.
- (12) Tank trucks which have a cargo capacity of at least 1,500 gallons.

(13) Trucks transporting bulk grains or bulk livestock feed.(c) The total gross weight with load imposed on the highway by any group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle in such combination of vehicles or of such combination of vehicles where the distance between the first and last axles of the two or more consecutive axles is 18 feet or less shall not exceed that given for the respective distance in the following table:

•	· ·
Distance in feet between first and last axles of group	Allowed load in pounds on group of axles
4	32,000
5	32,000
6	32,200
7	32,900
8	33,600
9	34,300
10	35,000
11	35,700
12	36,400
13	37,100
14	43,200
15	44,000
16	44,800
17	45,600
18	46,400

(d) The total gross weight with load imposed on the highway by any vehicle in such combination of vehicles or of such combination of vehicles where the distance between the first and last axles is more than 18 feet shall not exceed that given for the respective distances in the following table:

Distance in feet	Allowed load in pounds
19	47,200
20	48,000
21	48,800
22	49,600
23	50,400
24	51,200
25	55,250
26	56,100
97	56 950

Distance in feet	Allowed load in pounds
28	57,800
29	58,650
30	59,500
31	60,350
32	61,200
33	62,050
34	62,900
35	63,750
36	64,600
37	65,450
38	66,300
39	68,000
40	70,000
41	72,000
42	73,280
43	73,280
44	73,280
45	73,280
46	73,280
47	73,280
48	73,280
49	73,280
50	73,280
51	73,280
52	73,600
53	74,400
54	75,200
55	76,000
56 or over	76,800

- (e) The distance between axles shall be measured to the nearest whole foot. When a fraction is exactly six inches, the next larger whole foot shall be used.
- (f) The gross weight limits expressed by this section shall include all enforcement tolerances.
- (g) Nothing in this section shall affect the right to prohibit the use of any highway or any bridge or other structure thereon in the manner and to the extent specified in Article4 (commencing with Section 35700) and Article5 (commencing with Section 35750) of Chapter 5 of Division 15.
- (h) The Legislature, in enacting this section, does not intend to increase, and this section shall not be construed to allow, statutory weights any greater than existed prior to January 1, 1976.

Added Ch. 784, Stats. 1980. Effective January 1, 1981.

Vehicles Transporting Logs

35552. (a) This section applies only to trucks and vehicle combinations while transporting loads composed solely of logs.

- (b) One set of tandem axles of such a truck or vehicle combination shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 35551 if the total gross weight of 34,000 pounds on such a set that is permitted by Section 35551 is not exceeded by more than 1,500 pounds. In addition, such a truck and vehicle combination that has two consecutive sets of tandem axles shall be deemed to be in compliance with Section 35551 if such consecutive sets of tandem axles do not carry a combined total gross weight of more than 69,000 pounds, if the total gross weight on any one such set does not exceed 35,500 pounds, and if the overall distance between the first and last axle of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is 34 feet or more. All such truck and vehicle combinations shall be subject to all other provisions of Section 35551 or any other provision made applicable to the total gross weight of such a truck or vehicle combination in lieu of Section 35551.
- (c) The gross weight limits expressed in this section shall include all enforcement tolerances.
- (d) If any total gross weight permitted by this section is exceeded, the allowed weight in pounds set forth in subdivision (a) of Section 35551 shall be the maximum permitted weight for purposes of determining the amount of fine for such violation as specified in the table in Section 42030; except that, whenever the violation is for exceeding the total gross weight for two consecutive sets of tandem axles, and if the overall distance between the first and last axle of such sets is 34 feet or more, the allowed weight on the two consecutive sets shall be 68,000 pounds.
- (e) This section shall have no application to highways which are a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways (as referred to in subdivision (a) of Section 108 of the Federal-aid Highway Act of 1956).

This section may be cited as the Christensen-Belotti Act.

Amended Ch. 249, Stats. 1976. Effective June 19, 1976.

Exemptions

35553. The provisions of this Articleshall not apply to any vehicle in the immediate vicinity of an unloading or loading area while actually preparing for or in the process of unloading or loading, provided any overload is incidental to and necessitated by such action and provided that such action does not occur on a bridge or highway structure.

This section shall have no application to highways which are a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways (as referred to in subdivision (a) of Section 108 of the Federal-aid Highway Act of 1956).

Amended Ch. 733, Stats. 1972. Effective March 7, 1973.

Gross Weight Limit for Bus Axle

 $35554. \ \ \,$ Notwithstanding Section 35550, the gross weight on any one axle of a bus shall not exceed 20,500 pounds.

Amended Ch. 827, Stats. 1982. Effective September 10, 1982.

Gross Weight Limit for Cotton Module Mover

- 35555. (a) During the period commencing September 15 of each year and ending March 15 of the following year, the weight limitations of Section 35551 do not apply to any cotton module mover or any truck tractor pulling a semitrailer that is a cotton module mover, when operated as follows:
 - (1) Laterally across a state highway at grade of the state highway.
- (2) Upon any county highway within the Counties of Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Riverside,

Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba, except as prohibited or limited on county highways or portions thereof by resolution of the county board of supervisors having jurisdiction.

- (b) A cotton module mover may be operated upon a state highway within the counties and during the period set forth in subdivision (a) if all of the following are met:
- (1) The operator is in possession of a driver's license of the class required for operation of the mover.
- (2) The mover is operated in compliance with Sections 24002 and 24012; Article 1 (commencing with Section 24250) of, Article3 (commencing with Section 24600) of, Article4 (commencing with Section 24800) of, Article5 (commencing with Section 24950) of, Article6 (commencing with 25100) of, Article 9 (commencing with 25350) of, Article11 (commencing with 25450) of, Chapter 2 of Division 12; and Article2 (commencing with 26450) and Article 3 (commencing with 26502) of Chapter 3 of Division 12.
- (3) The mover does not exceed the maximum allowable gross axle weight for tandem axles set forth in Section 35551 by more than 6,000 pounds.
- (4) The operator of a mover that exceeds the maximum allowable gross axle weight for tandem axle vehicles as set forth in Section 35551 shall possess a commercial driver's license as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 15210.
- (c) This section does not apply to those highways designated by the United States Department of Transportation as national network routes.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 323, Stats. 1996. Effective July 29, 1996. Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 497, Stats. 2001. Effective October 4, 2001.

Vehicle Weight Certificates and Records

- 35557. (a) Only upon request to, and approval by, and in accordance with regulations adopted by, the Director of Food and Agriculture, all of the following are available for inspection by district attorneys and are subject to legal process for admission in any criminal or civil proceeding arising out of a violation of this chapter:
- (1) Vehicle weight certificates issued on or after January 1, 1984, pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 12700), Chapter 7.3 (commencing with Section 12740), and Chapter 7.7 (commencing with Section 12770) of Division 5 of the Business and Professions Code.
 - (2) Other records of vehicle weight relating to those certificates.
 - (3) Copies of those certificates and records.
- (b) All certificates, records, and copies thereof, issued before January 1, 1984, shall not be available for inspection and are not admissible in any criminal or civil proceedings arising out of a violation of this chapter.

Added Ch. 1319, Stats. 1983. Effective January 1, 1984.

Vehicles: Axle Weight Scales

35558. Any person or business which has an axle weight scale at its loading facilities shall, upon the request of the driver, weigh any load being transported for that person or business before the vehicle leaves the loading facility. In a port facility, this requirement only applies if the scale is located in outbound lanes. The request to weigh shall be based upon a reasonable assumption that the load is overweight.

Added Ch. 217, Stats. 1990. Effective January 1, 1991.

Vehicle Weight Violation: Codefendant

35559

Added Ch. 757, Stats. 1993. Effective January 1, 1994. Repealed Sec. 9, Ch. 504, Stats. 2001. Effective January 1, 2002.

Article 1.5. Intermodal Weight Determination Program

Legislative Intent

35580. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that a substantial number of container trailers using California highways exceed weight limitations authorized for California highways. Intermodal container trailers are containers which have been unloaded from ships or trains and placed on truck chassis, or are piggyback trailers unloaded from trains, for subsequent transport upon the highways. Container trailers are usually loaded by shippers in other states or foreign countries where gross and axle weight restrictions imposed by this code are of no concern to the loader. These loading practices often result in overweight vehicles traveling on California highways, which contributes to highway deterioration.

(b) The Legislature further finds and declares that the continued growth of intermodal transportation within the United States and the Pacific Rim makes it important for California to initiate a program to allow intermodal freight to be weighed at major terminal locations prior to operation on the highways, to ensure that these vehicles are within the established weight limits. The Legislature finds that the imposition of heavy fines and assessments is one means of reducing the number of overweight vehicles on the highways. A more effective, and preferable, alternative is to assure that intermodal container trailers are properly loaded at the outset by the party responsible for loading goods into the container trailer, so that vehicles meet weight requirements prior to their operation on the highways.

Added Ch. 865, Stats. 1988. Effective January 1, 1989.

Intermodal Weighing Facilities

35581. (a) The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, shall develop a plan for implementing or identifying new or existing scale facilities at major intermodal terminals which may serve as intermodal weighing facilities for weighing commercial vehicles which transport intermodal freight, prior to their entry onto any highway which is not specifically exempted from weight limitations by a local authority. The plan shall include consideration of options for financing the construction of required intermodal weighing facilities. The plan shall be submitted to the Legislature not later than August 1, 1989.

(b) The Department of Transportation may enter into agreements with local authorities or private entities to provide for exemption from weight restrictions for short distance movement to an intermodal weighing facility.

Amended Ch. 272, Stats. 1993. Effective August 2, 1993. Amended Sec. 229, Ch. 745, Stats. 2001. Effective October 11, 2001.

Article 2. Tire Limits

Solid Tires

35600. The gross weight upon a solid tire upon a vehicle shall not exceed 600 pounds upon any inch of the channel base width of such tire.

Metal Tires

35601. The gross weight of any vehicle and load resting upon any metal tire in contact with the roadway shall not exceed 500 pounds upon any inch of the width of such tire but this limitation shall not apply to traction engines or tractors, the propulsive power of which is not exerted through wheels resting upon the roadway but by means of a flexible band or chain, known as a movable track, when the portions of the movable tracks in contact with the surface of the roadway present plane surfaces.

Article 3. Limit Changes on State Highways

Increases

35650. The Department of Transportation, whenever it determines after an engineering investigation that any highway under its jurisdiction will with safety to itself sustain vehicles and loads weighing more than the maximum weight limits set forth in this code, shall have authority to declare and to fix a weight limit for the highway greater than the maximum weight limit set forth in this code. Thereafter it shall be lawful to operate or move vehicles and loads of a gross weight upon the highways designated, equal to but not in excess of the maximum weight limit fixed by the department.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Decreases

35651. Whenever in the judgment of the Department of Transportation any state highway will not with safety to itself sustain the maximum weights permitted under this code for the highway, the department shall determine, after a public hearing, the maximum weight which the highway will sustain.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Notice of Hearing

35652. The Department of Transportation shall give notice of the time and place of the hearing by posting a notice in the county seat of each county in which any affected portion of the highway is located and shall also post copies of the notice at intervals of not more than one mile along said highway and a notice at each end of the affected portion thereof. Notice of the hearing shall be given for not less than 10 days and the hearing shall be had at the county seat of the county in which the affected highway is situated or at some other place convenient to the portion of the highway affected.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Hearing

35653. The hearing shall be conducted by one or more engineers appointed by the Director of Transportation. The engineers shall hear all evidence presented at the time and place mentioned in the notice and shall report findings made in writing to the Director of Transportation. Upon the basis of the findings, the Director of Transportation shall declare in writing the maximum weight which can be maintained with safety upon the state highway. In no event shall the weight be less than 16,000 pounds.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Erection of Signs

35654. Following the declaration of maximum weight as provided in this article, the Department of Transportation shall erect suitable signs at each end of the affected portion of the highway and at such other points as the department deems necessary to give adequate notice of the weight limits.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Violation of Decreased Restriction

- 35655. (a) No person shall drive a vehicle on any state highway when the weight of the vehicle and load is greater than the maximum weight which the highway will sustain. Violations of this subdivision shall be punished in accordance with the schedule of fines set forth in Section 42030.
- (b) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation with respect to signs erected under Section 35654, proof of the determination and the maximum weight by the Department of Transportation and the existence of the signs constitutes prima facie evidence of the maximum weight which the

state highway will sustain.

Amended Ch. 542, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Interstate Route 580: Prohibited Vehicles: Weight Limit

- 35655.5. (a) Notwithstanding this Articleor any other provision of law, no vehicle, as described in Sections 410 and 655, with a gross weight of 9,000 pounds or more, shall be operated on the segment of Interstate Route 580 (I-580) that is located between Grand Avenue in the City of Oakland and the city limits of the City of San Leandro. This subdivision does not apply to passenger buses or paratransit vehicles.
- (b) The Department of Transportation shall erect suitable signs at each end of the portion of highway described in subdivision (a) and at any other points that the department deems necessary to give adequate notice of the weight limit imposed under this section.

Added Sec. 1, Ch. 212, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Article 4. Local Authorities

Increases

- 35700. (a) The legislative body of any county or city may by ordinance permit the operation and moving of vehicles and loads upon highways under their respective jurisdictions of a maximum gross weight in excess of the maximum gross weight of vehicles and loads specified in this code.
 - (b) This section does not apply to state highways.

Special Permits: Overweight Vehicles

- 35700.5. (a) The Department of Transportation, upon adoption of an ordinance or resolution that is in conformance with the provisions of this section by both the City of Long Beach and the City of Los Angeles, may issue a special permit to the operator of a vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment, permitting the operation and movement of the vehicle, combination, or equipment, and its load, on the 3.66-mile portion of State Route 47 and State Route 103 known as the Terminal Island Freeway, between Willow Street in the City of Long Beach and Terminal Island in the City of Long Beach and the City of Los Angeles, and on the 2.1-mile portion of State Highway Route 1 that is between Blinn Avenue in the City of Los Angeles and Harbor Avenue in the City of Long Beach, if the vehicle, combination, or equipment meets all of the following criteria:
- (1) The vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment is used to transport intermodal cargo containers that are moving in international commerce.
- (2) The vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment, in combination with its load, has a maximum gross weight in excess of the maximum gross weight limit of vehicles and loads specified in this chapter, but does not exceed 95,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.
- (3) (A) The vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment conforms to the axle weight limits specified in Section 35550.
- (B) The vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment conforms to the axle weight limits in Section 35551, except as specified in subparagraph (C).
- (C) Vehicles, combinations of vehicles, or mobile equipment that impose more than 80,000 pounds total gross weight on the highway by any group of two or more consecutive axles, exceed 60 feet in length between the extremes of any group of two or more consecutive axles, or have more than six axles shall conform to weight limits that shall be determined by the Department of Transportation.

- (b) The permit issued by the Department of Transportation shall be required to authorize the operation or movement of a vehicle, combination of vehicles, or mobile equipment described in subdivision (a). The permit shall not authorize the movement of hazardous materials or hazardous wastes, as those terms are defined by local, state, and federal law. The following criteria shall be included in the application for the permit:
- (1) A description of the loads and vehicles to be operated under the permit.
- (2) An agreement wherein each applicant agrees to be responsible for all injuries to persons and for all damage to real or personal property of the state and others directly caused by or resulting from the operation of the applicant's vehicles or combination of vehicles under the conditions of the permit. The applicant shall agree to hold harmless and indemnify the state and all its agents for all costs or claims arising out of or caused by the movement of vehicles or combination of vehicles under the conditions of the permit.
- (3) The applicant shall provide proof of financial responsibility that covers the movement of the shipment as described in subdivision (a). The insurance shall meet the minimum requirements established by law.
- (4) An agreement to carry a copy of the permit in the vehicle at all times and furnish the copy upon request of an employee of the Department of the California Highway Patrol or the Department of Transportation.
- (5) An agreement to place an indicia, developed by the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, upon the vehicle identifying it as a vehicle possibly operating under this section. The indicia shall be displayed in the lower right area of the front windshield of the power unit. The Department of Transportation may charge a fee to cover the cost of producing and issuing this indicia.
- (c) The permit issued pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be valid for one year. The permit may be canceled by the Department of Transportation for any of the following reasons:
- (1) The failure of the applicant to maintain any of the conditions required pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (2) The failure of the applicant to maintain a satisfactory rating, as required by Section 34501.12.
- (3) A determination by the Department of Transportation that there is sufficient cause to cancel the permit because the continued movement of the applicant's vehicles under the permit would jeopardize the safety of the motorists on the roadway or result in undue damage to the highways listed in this section.
- (d) The Department of Transportation may charge a fee to cover the cost of issuing a permit pursuant to subdivision (a). (
- Added and repealed Ch. 1037, Stats. 1994. Effective January 1, 1995. Repeal operative January 1, 1998.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 358, Stats. 1997. Effective January 1, 1998. Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 229, Stats. 2002. Effective January 1, 2003.

The 2002 amendment at the point(s) indicated, deleted the following "(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2003, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which that is enacted on or before January 1, 2003, deletes or extends that date."

Decreases by Local Authorities

35701. (a) Any city, or county for a residence district, may, by ordinance, prohibit the use of a street by any commercial vehicle or by any vehicle exceeding a maximum gross weight limit, except with respect to any vehicle which is subject to Sections 1031 to 1036, inclusive, of the Public Utilities Code, and except with respect to vehicles used for the collection and

transportation of garbage, rubbish, or refuse using traditionally used routes in San Diego County when the solid waste management plan prepared under Section 66780.1 of the Government Code is amended to designate each traditionally used route used for the purpose of transporting garbage, rubbish, or refuse which intersects with a local or regional arterial circulation route contained within a city or county's traffic circulation element and which provides access to a solid waste disposal site.

- (b) The ordinance shall not be effective until appropriate signs are erected indicating either the streets affected by the ordinance or the streets not affected, as the local authority determines will best serve to give notice of the ordinance.
- (c) No ordinance adopted pursuant to this section after November 10, 1969, shall apply to any state highway which is included in the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, except an ordinance which has been approved by a two-thirds vote of the California Transportation Commission.
- (d) The solid waste management plan prepared under Section 66780.1 of the Government Code by San Diego County may designate the traditionally used routes.
- (e) "Traditionally used route," for purposes of this section, means any street used for a period of one year or more as access to or from a solid waste disposal site.

Amended Ch. 616, Stats. 1987. Effective January 1, 1988.

Approval of Ordinance

35702. No ordinance proposed under Section 35701 is effective with respect to any highway which is not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the local authority enacting the ordinance, or, in the case of any state highway, until the ordinance has been submitted by the governing body of the local authority to, and approved in writing by, the Department of Transportation. In submitting a proposed ordinance to the department for approval, the governing body of the local authority shall designate therein, an alternate route for the use of vehicles, which route shall remain unrestricted by any local regulation as to weight limits or types of vehicles so long as the ordinance proposed shall remain in effect. The approval of the proposed ordinance by the Department of Transportation shall constitute an approval by it of the alternate route so designated.

Amended Sec. 71, Ch. 877, Stats. 1998. Effective January 1, 1999.

Commercial Vehicles

35703. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35701 shall prohibit any commercial vehicles coming from an unrestricted street having ingress and egress by direct route to and from a restricted street when necessary for the purpose of making pickups or deliveries of goods, wares, and merchandise from or to any building or structure located on the restricted street or for the purpose of delivering materials to be used in the actual and bona fide repair, alteration, remodeling, or construction of any building or structure upon the restricted street for which a building permit has previously been obtained.

Public Utility Construction or Repair Vehicle

35704. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35701 to decrease weight limits shall apply to any vehicle owned by a public utility or a licensed contractor while necessarily in use in the construction, installation, or repair of any public utility.

Amended Ch. 371, Stats. 1987. Effective January 1, 1988.

Highway User Tax Funds, Expenditure on City Streets

35705. Section 35701 shall not be applicable to any city street on which money from the State Highway Account in the State Transportation Fund has been or is used for construction or maintenance except in such cases as the legislative body of the city, after notice and hearing, determines to reduce weight limits on such streets. Notice of the hearing shall be published as provided in Section 6064 of the Government Code. The notice shall advise all interested parties that they may submit written and oral objections to the proposed action and shall designate a time and place for presentation of such objections. The time for submission of objections shall not expire, and the hearing may not be held, less than 60 days after the first publication of notice. The hearing shall be held before the legislative body of the city. All objections shall be considered and interested parties shall be afforded an adequate opportunity to be heard in respect to their objections.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Unimproved County Highways

35706. Boards of supervisors in their respective counties may by ordinance reduce the permissible weight of vehicles and loads upon unimproved county highways or upon county bridges.

Improved County Highways

35707. Boards of supervisors in their respective counties may by ordinance reduce the permissible weights upon improved highways only which by reason of deterioration will be destroyed unless the weight limits are reduced, but no such reduction shall extend for a period of more than 90 days unless actual repair of the highway is begun within that time and thereafter continuously carried on to completion.

For the purposes of this section, an improved county highway means a highway paved with cement concrete or asphaltic concrete, or a highway with a roadway of hard surface not less than four inches thick made up of a mixture of rock, sand, or gravel bound together by an artificial binder other than natural soil.

Ordinances Subject to Approval

35708. In the event any person protests in writing to the clerk of the board of supervisors within 15 days after the adoption of an ordinance reducing the permissible gross weight upon an improved highway, the reduction in weight shall not become final until the Department of Transportation after a hearing approves the action of the board of supervisors in making such reduction.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Hearing

35709. The hearing shall be held in the county in which the highway is located within 25 days after a request therefor, and shall be conducted by one or more engineers of the Department of Transportation to be designated by the Director of Transportation. The engineers shall hear all evidence presented and report their findings in writing to the director. Such director shall, upon the basis of the findings, declare in writing the approval or disapproval of the reduction.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Signs on Unimproved County Highways

35710. Whenever any weight limit different from those specified in this code is fixed in accordance with Section 35706 or 35707, the board of supervisors shall cause signs indicating the weight so fixed to be erected at

all entrances to the highway upon which the permissible gross weight is altered.

Delivery Routes

35711. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35706 or 35707 or 35712 shall prohibit any commercial vehicle from using any county highway by direct route to or from a state highway for the purpose of delivering or loading for transportation goods, wares, or merchandise.

Amended Ch. 1598, Stats. 1969. Effective November 10, 1969.

Highways Closed to Commercial Vehicles

- 35712. (a) Any county may, by ordinance, prohibit the use of any highway located in an unincorporated residential or subdivision area by any commercial vehicle exceeding a gross weight of 14,000 pounds.
- (b) Any county of the third class, as defined by Section 28024 of the Government Code, or of the ninth class, as defined by Section 28030 of the Government Code, may, by ordinance, prohibit the use of any highway located in an unincorporated residential or subdivision area by any commercial vehicle exceeding a gross weight of 5,000 pounds.
- (c) This section does not apply to a vehicle operated by, or on behalf of, a public utility in connection with the installation, operation, maintenance, or repair of its facilities.

Amended Sec. 72, Ch. 877, Stats. 1998. Effective January 1, 1999.

Signs; Alternate Route

35713. No ordinance closing a highway under Section 35712 or 35715 is effective until appropriate signs are erected indicating either the highways affected by the ordinance or the highways not affected as the county may determine will best serve to give notice of the ordinance, nor shall any ordinance be effective with respect to any county highway unless the board of supervisors designates in the ordinance an alternate route for the use of the vehicles which shall remain unrestricted by any local regulation as to commercial vehicles so long as the ordinance proposed shall remain in effect.

Amended Ch. 660, Stats. 1975. Effective September 10, 1975.

Exemptions

- 35714. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35712 shall be effective with respect to:
- (a) Any vehicle which is subject to the provisions of Article2 (commencing with Section 1031) of Chapter 5 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code.
- (b) Any highway, any portion of which is also under the jurisdiction of a city, unless the consent of the governing body of the city is first obtained.
- (c) Any commercial vehicle coming from an unrestricted highway having ingress and egress by direct route to and from the restricted highway when necessary for the purpose of making pickups or deliveries of goods, wares, and merchandise from or to any building or structure located on the restricted highway or for the purpose of delivering materials to be used in the actual and bona fide repair, alteration, remodeling, or construction of any building or structure upon the restricted highway for which a building permit has previously been obtained.
 - (d) The operation of ambulances or hearses.
- (e) Any vehicle owned, operated, controlled, or used by a public utility in connection with the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or repair of any public utility facilities.
- (f) Any state highway, until the proposed ordinance has been submitted by the board of supervisors of the county to and approved in writing by the

Department of Transportation. In submitting a proposed ordinance to the department for approval, the board of supervisors shall designate therein, an alternate route for the use of the vehicles which shall remain unrestricted by any local regulation as to commercial vehicles so long as the ordinance proposed shall remain in effect. The approval of the proposed ordinance by the Department of Transportation shall constitute an approval by the department of the alternate route so designated.

(g) Vehicles operated as an incident to any industrial, commercial or agricultural enterprise conducted within the boundaries of the unincorporated residential subdivision area.

Amended Sec. 73, Ch. 877, Stats. 1998. Effective January 1, 1999.

Highway Restriction: Nevada County

- 35715. (a) The County of Nevada may by ordinance prohibit the use of Northwoods Boulevard in such county by any commercial vehicle exceeding a gross weight specified in the ordinance.
- (b) No ordinance adopted pursuant to this section shall be effective with respect to:
- (1) Any commercial vehicle coming from an unrestricted highway having ingress and egress by direct route to and from the restricted highway when necessary for the purpose of making pickups or deliveries of goods, wares, and merchandise from or to any building or structure located on the restricted highway or for the purpose of delivering materials to be used in the actual and bona fide repair, alteration, remodeling, or construction of any building or structure upon the restricted highway for which a building permit has previously been obtained.
 - (2) The operation of ambulances or hearses.
- (3) Any vehicle owned, operated, controlled, or used by a public utility in connection with the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or repair of any public utility facilities.

Added Ch. 660, Stats. 1975. Effective September 10, 1975.

Licensed Contractors and Highway Carriers

35716. No ordinance adopted by a city to decrease weight limits shall apply to any vehicle owned, leased, operated or controlled by any licensed contractor while necessarily in use in the construction, maintenance, or repair of a public works project, or by any highway carrier regulated by the Public Utilities Commission while transporting any materials to or from a public works project, when the bids were opened prior to the adoption of the ordinance unless an alternate direct route is provided substantially within and by the city enacting the ordinance.

Amended Ch. 393, Stats. 1969. Effective November 10, 1969.

Defective Roadways

35717. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, any county may by ordinance prohibit the use of any street, road or highway by any commercial vehicle exceeding a maximum gross weight of 14,000 pounds if, by accepted engineering standards, the street, road or highway cannot support such vehicle.

Added Ch. 1732, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Signing Required

35718. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35717 shall be effective until appropriate signs are erected indicating either the streets, roads or highways affected by the ordinance or the streets, roads or highways not affected, as the board of supervisors may determine will best serve to give

notice of the ordinance.

Added Ch. 1732, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Intercounty Streets

35719. No ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35717 shall be effective with respect to any street, road or highway which connects with, or is a continuation of, any street, road or highway of an adjoining county unless the board of supervisors of each county in which the street, road or highway is a through highway, by concurrent action and like limitation, prohibit the use of such street, road or highway pursuant to this section.

Added Ch. 1732, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Vehicles Exempt

 $35720.\ \ No$ ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 35717 shall be effective with respect to:

(a) Any vehicle which is subject to the provisions of Article2 (commencing with Section 1031) of Chapter 5 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the

Public Utilities Code or any farm labor vehicle.

- (b) Any street, road or highway which is not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the board of supervisors enacting such ordinance, except as otherwise provided in Section 35719, or, in the case of any state highway, until such proposed ordinance has been submitted by the board of supervisors to and approved in writing by the Department of Transportation. In submitting such a proposed ordinance to the department for approval, the board of supervisors shall designate therein, an alternate route or routes for the use of such vehicles which shall remain unrestricted by any local regulation as to weight limits or types of vehicles so long as the ordinance proposed shall remain in effect. The approval of such proposed ordinances by the Department of Transportation shall constitute an approval by the department of such alternate route or routes so designated.
- (c) Any commercial vehicle coming from an unrestricted street, road or highway having ingress and egress by direct route to and from such restricted streets, roads, and highways when necessary for the purpose of making pickups or deliveries of goods, wares and merchandise from or to any building or structure located on such restricted streets, roads or highways or for the purpose of delivering materials to be used in the actual and bona fide repair, alteration, remodeling or construction of any building or structure upon such restricted street, road or highway for which a building permit, if required, has previously been obtained therefor, or vehicles, machinery, or construction equipment used in connection with, the construction, repair or maintenance of such restricted street or public work projects located thereon.
- (d) Any vehicle operated as an incident to any industrial, commercial or agricultural enterprise conducted upon any such street, road or highway.
- (e) Any vehicle owned, operated, controlled, or used by a public utility or licensed contractor in connection with the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or repair of any public utility facilities or public works projects.
 - (f) The operation of ambulances or hearses. Amended Ch. 676, Stats. 1980. Effective January 1, 1981.

Notice and Hearing

35721. No ordinance shall be adopted pursuant to Section 35717 except upon notice and hearing in the manner prescribed in this section.

Notice of hearing shall be published as prescribed in Section 6064 of the Government Code. The notice shall advise all interested parties that they may submit written or oral objections to the proposed action and shall

designate a time and place for presentation of such objections. The time for submission of objections shall not expire, and the hearing may not be held, less than 60 days after the first publication of notice. The hearing shall be held before the board of supervisors and interested parties shall be afforded an adequate opportunity to be heard with respect to their objections.

Added Ch. 1732, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Route 85 Restriction: Santa Clara County

35722. Prior to the execution of freeway agreements for State Highway Route 85 in Santa Clara County, with the concurrence of each city within the highway corridor, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara may, after a public hearing, adopt a proposed ordinance imposing a maximum gross truck weight limit of 9,000 pounds on Route 85 from State Highway Route 280 in Cupertino south and east to State Highway Route 101 in San Jose, and submit the proposed ordinance to the Department of Transportation for approval.

Upon approval of the proposed ordinance by the department, this weight limit shall be stipulated in the applicable freeway agreements with the local entities in the Route 85 corridor.

If the proposed ordinance is approved by the department, the weight limit shall become effective upon opening of any portion of the new Route 85 freeway corridor as defined in this section, and the department shall post appropriate signs, similar to the signs on State Highway Route 580 in Oakland. Except as otherwise provided in this section, this Articleshall be applicable to an ordinance adopted pursuant to this section.

Added Ch. 1250, Stats. 1987. Effective January 1, 1988.

Article 5. Bridges and Other Structures

Decreases

- 35750. (a) The Department of Transportation may, in the manner provided in Section 35751, determine the maximum weight of vehicle and load, lower than the maximum weight otherwise permitted under this code which a bridge or other structure with safety to itself will sustain.
- (b) The city council or the board of supervisors of a city or county with a population of 1,100,000 or more, as determined by the 1970 federal decennial census, may, in the manner provided in Section 35751, determine the maximum weight of vehicle and load, lower than the maximum weight otherwise permitted under this code which a bridge or other structure under its jurisdiction with safety to itself will sustain.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Investigation and Hearing

- 35751. (a) The Department of Transportation or the city council or board of supervisors of a city or county with a population of 1,100,000 or more, as determined by the 1970 federal decennial census, as the case may be, shall make an engineering investigation and hold a public hearing whenever such a determination appears necessary.
- (b) Notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be posted upon the bridge or other structure at least five days before the date fixed for the hearing. Upon the basis of the investigation and all evidence presented at the hearing, the department or the city council or board of supervisors, as the case may be, shall determine by order in writing the maximum weight of vehicle and load which the bridge or other structure with safety to itself will sustain.
- (c) With respect to any bridge or other structure not under its jurisdiction, the department shall not proceed under subdivisions (a) and (b) unless it first

receives a request to do so from the city council or the board of supervisors having jurisdiction over the bridge or other structure.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Maximum Weights; Signs

35752. Thereupon, the authority having jurisdiction over the bridge or other structure shall erect and maintain suitable signs specifying the maximum weight so determined, at a distance of not more than 500 feet from each end of the bridge or other structure or any approach thereto.

The standards and specifications for such signs shall be established in accordance with Section 21400 of this code.

Amended Ch. 1033, Stats. 1969. Effective November 10, 1969.

Violation of Decreased Restrictions

- 35753. (a) No person shall drive a vehicle over any bridge, causeway, viaduct, trestle, or dam constituting a part of a highway when the weight of the vehicle and load thereon is greater than the maximum weight which the bridge or other structure with safety to itself will sustain. Violations of this subdivision shall be punished in accordance with the schedule of fines set forth in Section 42030.
- (b) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation with respect to a weight restriction sign erected pursuant to Section 35752, proof of the determination of the maximum weight by the Department of Transportation and the existence of the weight restriction signs constitute prima facie evidence of the maximum weight which the bridge or other structure with safety to itself will sustain.

Amended Ch. 542, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Maximum Weights on Bridges Under Local Jurisdiction

35754. Whenever, in the opinion of a local authority, a bridge under its jurisdiction is in a dangerous or weak condition, it may temporarily erect suitable signs at all entrances to such bridge specifying the maximum weight which it believes the bridge with safety to itself will sustain. The maximum weight limit so fixed and posted shall remain in effect for not more than 90 days.

Amended Ch. 597, Stats. 1972. Effective January 1, 1973.

Maximum Weights on State Highway Bridges

35755. Whenever a state highway bridge is in a dangerous or weak condition, the Department of Transportation may temporarily erect suitable signs at all entrances to such bridge specifying the maximum weight which the bridge may safely sustain. Under no circumstances shall the maximum weight limit so fixed and posted pursuant to this section remain in effect more than 90 days.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Article 6. Permits and Agreements

Permits for Variances

35780. (a) The Department of Transportation or local authorities, with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions, may, at their discretion upon application and if good cause appears, issue a special permit authorizing the applicant:

- (1) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this code.
- (2) To use corrugations on the periphery of the movable tracks on a traction engine or tractor, the propulsive power of which is not exerted

through wheels resting upon the roadway but by means of a flexible band or chain

- (3) Under emergency conditions, to operate or move a type of vehicle otherwise prohibited hereunder, upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the party granting the permit and for the maintenance of which the party is responsible.
- (4) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting loads composed of logs only for the purpose of crossing a highway from one private property to another without complying with any or all of the equipment requirements of Division 12 (commencing with Section 24000) and Division 13 (commencing with Section 29000). These crossings shall be as near to a right angle to the roadway as is practical and shall not include any travel parallel to the roadway. The Department of Transportation shall determine standards and conditions upon which permits shall be issued and any permit not in compliance with those standards and conditions shall be invalid, except that a permit may contain more restrictive conditions if the issuing authority deems it appropriate.
- (b) Under conditions prescribed by the Department of Transportation or the local authority, the Department of Transportation or local authority may accept applications made by, and issue permits directly to, an applicant or permit service by any of the following processes:
 - (1) In writing.
 - (2) By an authorized facsimile process.
 - (3) Through an authorized computer and modem connection. Amended Ch. 391, Stats. 1992. Effective January 1, 1993.

Permit for Park Trailers

35780.3. A permit issued under Section 35780 for the movement of a park trailer, as described in Section 18009.3 of the Health and Safety Code, shall not be issued except to transporters, or licensed manufacturers and dealers.

Amended Ch. 272, Stats. 1993. Effective August 2, 1993. Amended Sec. 8, Ch. 566, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Application for Permit: Standard Permit Form

35781. The Department of Transportation shall develop a standard application form and a standard permit form for the application for, and the issuance of, a permit. The standard permit form may be used as the standard application form. The application for a permit shall specifically describe the vehicle and load to be operated or moved and the particular highways over which permit to operate is requested, and whether the permit is requested for a single trip or for continuous operation. Local authorities shall use the standard application form and the standard permit form developed by the Department of Transportation. The standard application form and the standard permit form shall be developed in cooperation with representatives of local government and the commercial trucking industry.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 464, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997.

Issuance, Withholding, or Restricting Permit

- 35782. (a) The Department of Transportation or a local authority may issue or withhold the permit at its discretion, or, if the permit is issued, do any of the following when necessary to protect against injury to the road, foundations, surfaces, or structures:
 - (1) Limit the number of trips.
- (2) Establish seasonal or other time limitations within which the vehicle or vehicles described may be operated on the highways indicated.
 - (3) Otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of the vehicle.

- (b) The Department of Transportation or a local authority may not require the posting of a bond as a condition of the issuance of a permit, except that a requirement of extra insurance or other financial security may be imposed as a condition for a permit for unusually large or heavy loads that pose a substantial risk to public facilities.
- (c) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the Department of Transportation or a local authority may not require proof of financial responsibility in an amount greater than that required for compliance with Section 16500.5 as a condition of the permit, and shall accept evidence of financial responsibility that complies with Section 16020.

Amended Sec. 137, Ch. 124, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997.

Possession of Permit

35783. Every permit shall be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection of any peace officer, traffic officer, authorized agent of the Department of Transportation, or any other officer or employee charged with the care or protection of such highways.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Removal or Covering of Warning Signs

35783.5. Warning signs required by the terms of a permit shall either be removed from the vehicle or covered from the view of other motorists whenever the vehicle is operating without the load that required the permit. Added Ch. 287, Stats. 1978. Effective January 1, 1979.

Violation of Permit: Misdemeanor: Exception

- 35784. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), it is unlawful for any person to violate any of the terms or conditions of any special permit.
- (b) In an incorporated city where compliance with the route described in a special permit would result in a violation of local traffic regulations, the permittee may detour from the prescribed route to avoid violating the local traffic regulations if the permittee returns as soon as possible to the prescribed route. A detour under this subdivision shall be made only on nonresidential streets.
- (c) If a violation under subdivision (a) consists of an extralegal load not being on the route described in the special permit, and the violation is directly caused by the action of an employee under the supervision of, or by the action of any independent contractor working for, a permittee subject to this section, the employee or independent contractor the violation is guilty of a misdemeanor. This subdivision applies only if the employee or independent contractor has been provided written direction on the route to travel and has not been directed to take a different route by a peace officer.
- (d) The guilt of an employee or independent contractor under subdivision (c) shall not extend to the permittee employing that person unless the permittee is separately responsible for an action causing the violation.
- (e) A violation of equipment requirements contained in Division 12 (commencing with Section 24000), by any person operating a pilot car shall not be considered a violation of any terms or conditions of a special permit under subdivision (a).
- (f) (1) Any person convicted of a violation of the terms and conditions of a special permit shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.
- (2) In addition, if the violation involves weight in excess of that authorized by the permit, an additional fine shall be levied as specified in

Section 42030 on the amount of weight in excess of the amount authorized by the permit.

Amended Ch. 460, Stats. 1988. Effective January 1, 1989.

Violation: Extralegal Load

- 35784.5. (a) Any person convicted of transporting an extralegal load on a highway, or causing or directing the operation of or driving on a highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles for which a permit is required pursuant to this article, without having obtained a permit issued in accordance with this article, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.
- (b) If the violation involves excess weight, an additional fine shall be levied as specified in Section 42030 on the amount of weight in excess of that authorized pursuant to this chapter.

Added Ch. 542, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Hauling of Saw Logs

- 35785. (a) The axle weight limitations imposed in Sections 35550 and 35551 shall not apply to the transportation of a single saw log which does not exceed 8 feet in diameter and 21 feet in length or 6 feet in diameter and 33 feet in length, if such log is hauled on a combination of vehicles consisting of a three-axle truck and a two-axle logging dolly under permit issued by the Department of Transportation or by local authorities with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions. Such permit may be granted for not more than thirty (30) days and may be revocable upon notice by the department or local authorities, as the case may be.
- (b) When so transported, the vehicle shall not be operated over any bridge or causeway at a speed of more than 15 miles per hour or on the highway at more than 25 miles per hour, on routes designated in the permit. Diameter measurements of the logs shall be made on the large end.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Use of Truck Booster Power Units

35786. Truck booster power units may be used to aid in propelling or moving any motor truck or lawful combination of motor vehicles upon a highway upon an ascending or descending grade, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) A permit for such operation must be obtained as provided in this article.
- (b) The truck booster power unit shall be operated only on such highways and at such times and according to such conditions and requirements as may be specified in the permit.

Issuance of Truck Booster Power Unit Permit

35787. The Department of Transportation or local authority, as the case may be, shall issue a truck booster power unit permit only if in its opinion the proposed operation would not tend to endanger the traveling public or to damage the highway, bridge or any highway structure.

The Department of Transportation and local authorities, in issuing a permit, may make such conditions and requirements as in their opinion are necessary or desirable for the safety of the traveling public and of the highway, including bridges and other highway structures.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Agreements for Transporting Loads

35788. Upon application to the Director of Transportation for

permission to use and operate on highways private or contract vehicles for the purpose of hauling loads which weigh in excess of the maximum load weight limits, the director may enter into an agreement with the applicant, permitting such overloads, specifying protective restrictions and providing for the payment of a financial contribution for the issuance of such permission, except that the overload shall not exceed 25 percent of the maximum load weight limitation, in pounds, set forth in this code. The agreement shall not permit the applicant to transport such excess weight loads on highways for distances exceeding 75 miles. All contributions received by the Department of Transportation shall be used for the construction, improvement, or maintenance of the highway designated in the permission to operate overweight loads. Sections 188 and 188.8 of the Streets and Highways Code does not apply to contributions received pursuant to this section, and any expenditures of the contributions by the department shall not be credited against amounts required to be expended pursuant to Sections 188 and 188.8 of the Streets and Highways Code.

This section does not apply to highways which are a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

Amended Ch. 827, Stats. 1982. Effective September 10, 1982.

Building Mover's Notice to Railroad

35789. Any housemoving contractor or other person who by contract or otherwise moves or transports a dwelling house or other building across railroad tracks shall furnish to the division or district superintendent of the railroad company operating such tracks written notice of intention to make such movement at least 36 hours prior to doing so. The written notice of intention to make such a movement shall contain the name of the street, highway or road over which such dwelling house or other building will be moved across the railroad tracks, the approximate time of day such movement will be made and such other information as may be necessary to enable the railroad company to take precautionary measures to avoid a collision by a train with such dwelling house or other building.

Amended Ch. 1996, Stats. 1959. Effective September 18, 1959.

Overwidth Manufactured Homes: Legislative Findings

- 35789.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (1) Current restrictions on the movement on the highways of manufactured homes in excess of 14 feet in width has caused the closure of some manufactured housing manufacturing facilities, that have, in turn, relocated to other states in order to compete with interstate commerce.
- (2) Those restrictions on the movement of manufactured homes could cause the closure of at least three more manufacturing facilities within the next 12 months, thereby laying off some 500 employees, while at the same time those manufacturing facilities relocate to other states.
- (3) The Department of Transportation has a policy allowing permitted loads in excess of 14 feet in width for the general trucking industry and the boating industry.
- (4) The Legislature supports allowing the movement on the highways of manufactured homes in excess of 14 feet in width, with appropriate safeguards, because this policy will result in both of the following:
- (A) Enable the manufactured housing industry to produce homes for export to other states, thereby keeping jobs within the state and benefiting the state's economy.
- (B) Permit the building of manufactured homes with eaves, which provide structural and aesthetic benefits to the homes.
 - (b) The Legislature further finds and declares that allowing the

movement on the highways of manufactured homes that are 16 feet in width, with appropriate safeguards, will benefit the state's economy and will allow production of more affordable and aesthetic manufactured homes.

Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 278, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997.

Overwidth Manufactured Homes

- 35790. (a) The Department of Transportation or local authorities with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions may, upon application in writing and if good cause appears, issue a special or annual permit in writing authorizing the applicant to move any manufactured home in excess of the maximum width but not exceeding 14 feet in total width, exclusive of lights and devices provided for in Sections 35109 and 35110, upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the party granting the permit.
- (b) A public agency, in the exercise of its discretion in granting permits for the movement of overwidth manufactured homes, and in considering the individual circumstances of each case, may use merchandising or relocation of residence as a basis for movement for good cause.
- (c) (1) The application for a special permit shall specifically describe the manufactured home to be moved and the particular highways over which the permit to operate is requested.
- (2) The application for an annual permit shall specifically describe the power unit to be used to tow the overwidth manufactured homes and the particular highways over which the permit to operate is requested. The annual permit shall be subject to all of the conditions of this section and any additional conditions imposed by the public agency.
- (d) The Department of Transportation or local authority may establish seasonal or other time limitations within which a manufactured home may be moved on the highways indicated, and may require an undertaking or other security as it deems necessary to protect the highways and bridges from injury or to provide indemnity for any injury resulting from the operation.
- (e) Permits for the movement of manufactured homes under this section shall not be issued except to transporters or licensed manufacturers and dealers and only under the following conditions:
- (1) The manufactured home for which the permit is issued shall comply with Sections 35550 and 35551.
- (2) In the case of a permit issued on an individual or repetitive trip basis, the applicant has first received the approval of a city or county if the trip will include movement on streets or highways under the jurisdiction of the city or county. The application for such a permit shall indicate the complete route of the proposed move and shall specify all cities and counties that have approved the move. This paragraph shall not be construed to require the Department of Transportation to verify the information provided by an applicant with respect to movement on streets or highways under local jurisdiction.
- (3) It is a violation of any permit, which is issued by the Department of Transportation and authorizes a move only on a state highway, for that move to be extended to a street or highway under the jurisdiction of a city or county unless the move has been approved by the city or county.
- (f) The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, or the local authority may establish additional reasonable permit regulations as they may deem necessary in the interest of public safety, which regulations shall be consistent with this section.
 - (g) Every permit, the consent form or forms as required by Section

18099.5 of the Health and Safety Code, and a copy of the tax clearance certificate, certificate of origin, or dealer's notice of transfer, when the certificate or notice is required to be issued, shall be carried in the manufactured home or power unit to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any peace officer or traffic officer, any authorized agent of the Department of Transportation, or any other officer or employee charged with the care and protection of the highways.

(h) It is unlawful for any person to violate any of the terms or conditions of any permit.

Amended Sec. 138, Ch. 124, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997.

Overwidth Manufactured Homes: Additional Requirements for Movement on Highway

35790.1. In addition to the requirements and conditions contained in Section 35790 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, all of the following conditions and specifications shall be complied with to move any manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code, that is in excess of 14 feet in total width, but not exceeding 16 feet in total width, exclusive of lights and devices provided for in Sections 35109 and 35110, upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the entity granting the permit:

(a) For the purposes of width requirements under this code, the overall width of manufactured housing specified in this section shall be the overall width, including roof overhang, eaves, window shades, porch roofs, or any other part of the manufactured house that cannot be removed for the

purposes of transporting upon any highway.

- (b) Unless otherwise exempted under this code, all combinations of motor vehicles and manufactured housing shall be equipped with service brakes on all wheels. Service brakes required under this subdivision shall be adequate, supplemental to the brakes on the towing vehicle, to enable the combination of vehicles to comply with the stopping distance requirements of Section 26454.
- (c) In addition to the requirements contained in Section 26304, the breakaway brake device on any manufactured housing unit equipped with electric brakes shall be powered by a wet cell rechargeable battery that is of the same voltage rating as the brakes and has sufficient charge to hold the brakes applied for not less than 15 minutes.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, the weight imposed upon any tire, wheel, axle, drawbar, hitch, or other suspension component on a manufactured housing unit shall not exceed the manufacturer's maximum weight rating for the item or component.
- (e) In addition to the requirements in subdivision (d), the maximum allowable weight upon one manufactured housing unit axle shall not exceed 6,000 pounds, and the maximum allowable weight upon one manufactured housing unit wheel shall not exceed 3,000 pounds.
- (f) Manufactured housing unit tires shall be free from defects, have at least $^2/_{32}$ of an inch tread depth, as determined by tire tread wear indicators, and shall comply with specifications and requirements contained in Section 3280.904(b)(8) of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (g) Manufactured housing unit manufacturers shall provide transporters with a certification of compliance document, certifying the manufactured housing unit complies with the specifications and requirements contained in subdivisions (d), (e), and (f). Each certification of compliance document shall identify, by serial or identification number, the specific manufactured housing unit being transported and shall be signed by a representative of the

manufacturer. Each transporter of manufactured housing units shall have in his or her immediate possession a copy of the certification of compliance document and shall make the document available upon request by any member of the Department of the California Highway Patrol, any authorized employee of the Department of Transportation, or any regularly employed and salaried municipal police officer or deputy sheriff.

- (h) Manufactured housing unit dealers shall provide transporters with a certification of compliance document, specifying that all modifications, equipment additions, or loading changes by the dealer have not exceeded the gross vehicle weight rating of the manufactured housing unit or the axle and wheel requirements contained in subdivisions (d), (e), and (f). Each certification of compliance document shall identify, by serial or identification number, the specific manufactured housing unit being transported and shall be signed by a representative of the dealer. Each transporter of manufactured housing units shall have in his or her immediate possession a copy of the certification of compliance document and shall make the document available upon request by any member of the Department of the California Highway Patrol, any authorized employee of the Department of Transportation, or any regularly employed and salaried municipal police officer or deputy sheriff.
- (i) Transporters of manufactured housing units shall not transport any additional load in, or upon, the manufactured housing unit that has not been certified by the manufactured housing unit's manufacturer or dealer.
- (j) Every hitch, coupling device, drawbar, or other connections between the towing unit and the towed manufactured housing unit shall be securely attached and shall comply with Subpart J of Part 3280 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (k) Manufactured housing units shall be equipped with an identification plate, specifying the manufacturer's name, the manufactured housing unit's serial number, the gross vehicle weight rating of the manufactured housing unit, and the gross weight of the cargo that may be transported in or upon the manufactured housing unit without exceeding the gross vehicle weight rating. The identification plate shall be permanently attached to the manufactured housing unit and shall be positioned adjacent to, and meet the same specifications and requirements applicable to, the certification label required by Subpart A of Part 3280 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (*J*) Manufactured housing units shall be subject to all lighting requirements contained in Sections 24603, 24607, 24608, and 24951. When transported during darkness, manufactured housing units shall additionally be subject to Sections 24600 and 25100.
- (m) Manufactured housing units shall have all open sides covered by plywood, hard board, or other rigid material, or by other suitable plastics or flexible material. Plastic or flexible side coverings shall not billow or flap in excess of six inches in any one place. Units that are opened on both sides may be transported empty with no side coverings.
- (n) Transporters of manufactured housing units shall make available all permits, licenses, certificates, forms, and any other relative document required for the transportation of manufactured housing upon request by any member of the Department of the California Highway Patrol, any authorized employee of the Department of Transportation, or any regularly employed and salaried municipal police officer or deputy sheriff.
- (o) The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, or the local authority, shall require pilot car or special escort services for the movement of any

manufactured housing unit pursuant to this section, and may establish additional reasonable permit regulations, including special routing requirements, as necessary in the interest of public safety and consistent with this section.

(p) The Department of Transportation shall not issue a permit to move a manufactured home that is in excess of 14 feet in total width unless that department determines that all of the conditions and specifications set forth in this section have been met.

Added Sec. 2, Ch. 278, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997. Amended Sec. 164, Ch. 135, Stats. 2000. Effective January 1, 2001.

Legislative Findings

35790.4. The Legislature finds and declares that current restrictions on the movement of combinations of manufactured homes have unduly restricted the ability of the California manufactured housing industry to meet the needs of the consumer in this state.

The Legislature further finds and declares that the improved movement of manufactured homes, with appropriate safeguards, will benefit the state's economy and will allow production of more affordable and aesthetic manufactured homes.

Added Ch. 1312, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Manufactured Home: Overlength Permits

- 35790.5. (a) A permit issued pursuant to Section 35790 may authorize an exemption from length limitations otherwise applicable to vehicles and combinations of vehicles for the transportation of more than one unit of a manufactured home if all of the following conditions are met:
- (1) The units are parts of a manufactured home that, when completed, connect two or more modular units.
- (2) The units are mounted or loaded on a single vehicle or chassis in a manner so that their narrowest dimension represents the loaded width on the highway.
- (3) The units are loaded in tandem only with respect to length, and the dimension from the front of the forward unit to the rear of the last unit does not exceed the length of vehicles in combination that would otherwise be permitted under this section.
- (b) Applications for permits issued pursuant to this section shall specifically describe the manufactured home units to be moved and shall include a written statement of good cause satisfying the requirements of this section.
- (c) Permits, other than annual permits, issued pursuant to this section shall describe the particular highways over which the permit is valid and shall be subject to all of the conditions of this Articleand any additional conditions imposed by the public agency issuing the permit.

Added Ch. 1312, Stats. 1984. Effective January 1, 1985.

Manufactured Home: Overheight Permits

35790.6. A permit issued pursuant to Section 35780 or 35790 may authorize an exemption from the height limitations in Section 35250 for manufactured homes, including manufactured homes with a height in excess of 15 feet, measured from the surface upon which the vehicle stands, if the proposed route can accommodate the vehicle.

Added Ch. 350, Stats. 1986. Effective July 15, 1986.

Single Permit

35791. The Department of Transportation and any local authority may, with respect to such highways as may be agreed upon under their respective

jurisdictions which traverse any area within the boundaries of the local authority, contract for the issuance by either authority of a single permit authorizing the operation or movement of a vehicle or a combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment in the same manner as if each authority had issued separate permits pursuant to Section 35780.

Amended Ch. 545, Stats. 1974. Effective January 1, 1975.

Permit Fee

35795. (a) The Department of Transportation may charge a fee for the issuance of permits pursuant to this article.

The fee established by the Department of Transportation pursuant to this section shall be established by a regulation adopted pursuant to Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11371) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and shall be calculated to produce a total estimated revenue that is not more than the estimated total cost to that department for administering this article. Special services necessitated by unusually large or heavy loads requiring engineering investigations, or other services, may be billed separately for each permit.

The funds collected by the Department of Transportation pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the State Highway Account in the State Transportation Fund.

(b) Local authorities may charge a fee for the issuance of permits pursuant to this article. However, the fee established by a local authority pursuant to this section shall be established by ordinance or resolution adopted after notice and hearing. The fee shall be calculated to produce a total estimated revenue that is not more than the estimated total cost incurred by the local authority in administering its authority under this Article and shall not exceed the fee developed by the Department of Transportation pursuant to subdivision (a). The fee for the issuance of permits shall be developed in consultation with representatives of local government and the commercial trucking industry. Notice of the hearing shall be by publication as provided in Section 6064 of the Government Code. The hearing shall be held before the legislative body of the local authority. All objections shall be considered and interested parties shall be afforded an adequate opportunity to be heard in respect to their objections. Special services necessitated by unusually large or heavy loads requiring engineering investigations, escorts, tree trimming, or other services shall be billed separately for each permit.

Nothing in this section shall limit or restrict the application of Section 35782.

Amended Sec. 2, Ch. 464, Stats. 1996. Effective January 1, 1997.

Delegation by Local Authorities to Road Commissioner

35796. Any or all of the powers granted to local authorities in this Article may, by ordinance or resolution, be delegated by such local authorities to the road commissioner or to such other local official as may be performing functions substantially the same as a road commissioner in the county or municipality enacting such ordinance or resolution.

Added Ch. 380, Stats. 1971. Operative May 3, 1972.